

REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 and 10-12 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims are in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled. Claims 4-9 and 13-48 are canceled.

The drawings were objected to because Figure 1 was not properly labeled as being prior art. In response, a replacement sheet has been submitted amending Figure 1 to include the label —PRIOR ART—. Accordingly, Applicants believe this objection has been overcome.

The Specification was objected to because the title of the invention was not descriptive. In response, a new title is submitted that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, Applicants believe this objection has been overcome.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1-3 and 10-12 are allowable over the prior art of record. Applicants have amended the claims to cure each of the Examiner's rejections cited under § 112, second paragraph, without changing the scope of the claims.

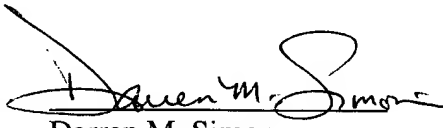
Hence, allowable claims 1-3 and 10-12 should now be in condition for allowance. In addition, withdrawn claims 4-9 and 13-48 have been canceled. Accordingly, Applicants believe all of the remaining claims (1-3 and 10-12) should now be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are required, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes the following change to the figure:

Figure 1, please add the legend —PRIOR ART— as shown